

**State-Wide Electric, Inc.
109 Commerce Street
Glastonbury, CT 06033
860.659.0537
larry@state-wideelectric.com**

**To: Honorable Members of the General Law Committee
From: Larry Vallieres, President, State-Wide Electric, Inc.
Chairman, State of Connecticut Electrical Work Examining Board
Board Member, Independent Electrical Contractors of New England
Date: March 11, 2014
Re: Support of SB-412
"AN ACT CONCERNING THE ENFORCEMENT OF CERTAIN OCCUPATIONAL
LICENSING STATUES"**

As a licensed electrical contractor in the State of Connecticut for over 40 years, Chairman of the State of Connecticut Electrical Work Examining Board, and Board member of the Independent Electrical Contractors of New England, I respectfully ask members of the General Law Committee to **SUPPORT SB-412, "An Act Concerning The Enforcement of Certain Occupational Licensing Laws"**.

These proposed changes will significantly help to clarify the responsibilities of both the Commissioner of Consumer Protection and the occupational licensing boards. The addition of the "Cease work Order" language will help to protect the consumer from persons who illegally perform work without a proper license or apprenticeship registration. With the ability to issue a "Cease Work Order" within 48 hours of a determined violation of this section, any person found in violation will be required to immediately stop work and leave the worksite. This will eliminate the possibility for an unlicensed or unregistered person to continue to perform work in violation of our statutes.

Continued strong enforcement of the state's occupational licensing and apprenticeship laws relative to electrical work is clearly a life safety issue. Shoddy and unsafe work installed by unlicensed individuals can result in fires that could destroy property and take lives. By ensuring that individuals performing electrical work are held to high standards, (which includes continuing education for electricians), statewide licensing requirements have helped to maintain the highest possible level of safety and training for our industry.

In closing, I respectfully urge you to **SUPPORT SB-412**. Thank you for your consideration of my comments, and please do not hesitate to contact me if I may be of further assistance.